

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 107787 TOSEC 040199
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 107787 TOSEC 040199

NODIS
FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF WEDNESDAY'S EVENING READING:

1. PAKISTAN. THE BHUTTO GOVERNMENT HAS NOW WITHDRAWN ITS SUGGESTION THAT FOREIGN MINISTER AZIZ AHMED COME TO WASHINGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE FOR TALKS. IN VIEW OF BHUTTO'S RENEWED PUBLIC ATTACKS ON US, THIS MAY BE JUST AS WELL. AN EARLY, WELL-PUBLICIZED MEETING COULD BE CONSTRUED BY BHUTTO AS A FORM OF APOLOGY ON OUR PART. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, CY HAS PROPOSED TO SEE AZIZ AHMED DURING THE MAY 30 - JUNE 2 CIEC MEETING THAT BOTH WILL BE ATTENDING.

2. CSCE PREPARATIONS. DANTE FASCELL CAME DOWN FOR LUNCH TODAY TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF CSCE-RELATED MATTERS.

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HESAID THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS AND THE PRIOR ADMINISTRATION'S ATTITUDE TOWARD HIS COMMISSION MAKES HIM FEEL LIKE A "COW IN CLOVER." WE SPENT A GOOD DEAL OF TIME CONSIDERING THE COMPOSITION OF OUR DELEGATION TO THE MAIN MEETING IN BELGRADE IN THE FALL. CURRENTLY, THE MOST LIKELY FORMAT IS A DELEGATION CONSISTING OF

FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND FOUR MEMBERS OF FASCELL'S COMMISSION, INCLUDING FASCELL WHO WOULD SERVE AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE DELEGATION. THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND AS ALTERNATES, AND ALL WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE DIRECTION OF YOU AND THE SECRETARY.

AS FOR THE PREPARATORY MEETING BEGINNING ON JUNE 15, WE WILL BE SENDING A SMALL DELEGATION HEADED BY AMBASSADOR SHERER, WHO WAS WORKING HEAD OF THE U.S. DELEGATION AT THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. THIS WORKING DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE STAFF OF FASCELL'S COMMISSION.

3. CUBA. TO FOLLOW UP ON LAST NIGHT'S NOTE, I SHOULD MENTION THAT THE CUBAN LIAISON OFFICER FROM THEIR MISSION IN NEW YORK CAME TO WASHINGTON TODAY TO DISCUSS WITH US THE DETAILS OF THEIR "INTEREST SECTIONS" PROPOSAL. THE CUBANS, WHO APPEAR TO BE WELL ALONG WITH THEIR OWN PLANNING, SUGGESTED THEY WOULD WANT EIGHT OR NINE OFFICERS IN THEIR SECTION IN THE CZECH EMBASSY HERE BECAUSE OF THE LARGE CUBAN COMMUNITY IN THE U.S. AND THEIR HOPES TO DEVELOP CULTURAL, SPORTS, AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGES. DURING THE SESSION TODAY, WE WERE NON-COMMITTAL ON THE TIMING OF THE OPENING OF SUCH SECTIONS.

4. NAMIBIA. FOLLOW-UP BRIEFINGS ON THE RESULTS OF THE CAPE TOWN TALKS ON NAMIBIA HAVE NOW BEEN GIVEN TO FOUR OF THE FRONT LINE GOVERNMENTS, SEVERAL SWAPO LEADERS, AND
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CONCERNED ELEMENTS WITHIN NAMIBIA. THE REACTION IN DAR ES SALAAM, LUSAKA AND GABORONE WAS GENERALLY POSITIVE, ALTHOUGH SKEPTICISM WAS EXPRESSED ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS. MOZAMBIKAN PRESIDENT MACHEL WAS SOMEWHAT NEGATIVE, BUT SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT THE EFFORT IF IT WAS GENUINE. SWAPO REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE WESTERN EFFORT BUT DOUBTED SOUTH AFRICAN SINCERITY. IN NAMIBIA ITSELF, THE REACTION TO THE TALKS WAS GENERALLY POSITIVE.

5. NOMINEES. THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEARD THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT NOMINEES TODAY: VEST (ASSISTANT SECRETARY - EUROPE) AND AMBASSADORIAL CANDIDATES HECK (NEPAL), RIDGWAY (FINLAND), AND SULLIVAN (IRAN). THE QUESTIONING OF VEST, HECK AND RIDGWAY WAS BRIEF AND PRESENTED NO PROBLEMS. AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN FACED DIFFICULT QUESTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN AND THE PHILIPPINES AND ON HIS SERVICE AS AMBASSADOR IN LAOS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. THE COMMITTEE ALSO HEARD THREE

WITNESSES OPPOSED TO HIS NOMINATION. AT THE REQUEST
OF SENATOR CHURCH, THE NOMINEES WERE NOT REPORTED OUT,
AND THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT SULLIVAN MAY BE CALLED
BACK BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

CHRISTOPHER

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